

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 5, 2004. Claims 40 to 60 are now pending in the application, with Claims 55 to 60 having been added. Claims 40, 45 and 50 are the independent claims herein.

Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim 44 was objected to for an informality that has been attended to by amendment as recited above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 40, 41, 43 to 46, 48 to 51, 53 and 54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,421,069 (Ludke), and Claims 42, 47 and 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Ludtke in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,288,716 (Humpleman). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to a control panel for controlling a controlled apparatus. According to the invention, a control apparatus (such as digital TV 101) which is remotely operated by an operation apparatus (such as remote controller 104), transmits information about an operation apparatus, which is to be used to operate a control panel, to a controlled apparatus (such as digital video recorder 104). The controlled apparatus receives the operation apparatus information and modifies control panel information according to the received operation apparatus information. As a result, the control panel is displayed on the digital TV and can be modified to correspond to both the remote controller and the digital video recorder, based on functionality of each.

Referring specifically to the claims, amended independent Claim 40 is a control system, comprising a control apparatus which is remotely operated by an operation

apparatus, and a controlled apparatus which transmits control panel information, which is to be used to control the controlled apparatus, to the control apparatus, wherein the controlled apparatus includes a receiving unit which receives, from the control apparatus, operation apparatus information including information about an operation apparatus, and a modifying unit which modifies the control panel information according to the operation apparatus information received from the control apparatus.

Amended independent Claim 45 includes features along the lines of Claim 40, but is more specifically directed to a controlled apparatus which transmits control panel information to be used to control the controlled apparatus to a control apparatus remotely operated by an operation apparatus, the controlled apparatus comprising, a receiving unit which receives, from the control apparatus, operation apparatus information including information about the operation apparatus, and a modifying unit which modifies the control panel information according to the operation apparatus information received from the control apparatus.

Amended independent Claim 50 is a method claim that substantially corresponds to Claim 45.

The art of record, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 40, 45 and 50. In particular, the art of record is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of a controlled apparatus, remotely operated by an operation apparatus, receiving, from a control apparatus, operation apparatus information about the operation apparatus, and modifying control panel information, which is transmitted to the control apparatus, according to the received operation apparatus information.

Ludtke is merely seen to disclose a network that includes a camera 10, a VCR 14, a TV 19, and a PC 18. Any one of the devices can display a graphical user interface (Fig. 6) “through which the user is able to control the other devices. (See, e.g., col. 8, line 66 to col. 9, line 5, and col. 8, lines 14 to 19). Ludke also disclose that a counter included in the displayed control panel for the VCR is updated according to the flow of a stream of data from the camera to the VCR. However, Applicants fail to see anything in Ludtke in which any of the devices receive, from a control apparatus, operation apparatus information about the operation apparatus, and modify control panel information, which is transmitted to the control apparatus, according to the received operation apparatus information. Accordingly, Claims 40, 45 and 50 are not believed to be anticipated by Ludtke.

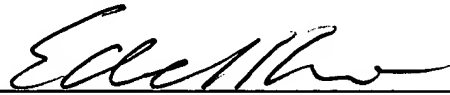
Humpleman is merely seen to disclose that user interface information for controlling devices on a home network is stored in a second device and is transmitted to a first device, which displays the user interface. Using, for example, a mouse, a user can perform operations via the user interface on the first device to control other devices in the network. However, Applicants fail to see anything in Humpleman in which any of the devices receive, from a control apparatus, operation apparatus information about the operation apparatus, and modify control panel information, which is transmitted to the control apparatus, according to the received operation apparatus information.

Thus, neither Ludtke or Humplman, alone or in combination, are seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the present invention. Accordingly, independent Claims 40, 45 and 50, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Kmett', written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants
Edward A. Kmett
Registration No. 42,746

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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